

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-5 and 8-12 were rejected, and claims 6-7 and 13-14 were objected to. Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter is added. The rejections are respectfully traversed in light of the amendments and following remarks, and reconsideration is requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 1-5 and 8-12 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,893,621 to Sekiguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,243,062 to Den Boer et al. (hereinafter Den Boer).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Figure 2 of Sekiguchi discloses that the lateral surface of floating electrode 2 includes a portion which is not covered by insulating layer 8. This structure is made because Sekiguchi teaches that the floating electrode 2 is formed by an etch process using the insulating layer 8 as an etch mask (Sekiguchi, FIGS. 6-9 and related descriptions).

In contrast, the present invention discloses an insulating layer covering the entire lateral surface of a floating electrode because the insulating layer is formed to cover the entire lateral surface of the floating electrode after formation of the floating electrode is completed.

The examiner further alleges that Claim 8 is unpatentable for the same reason provided with respect to Claim 1. However, Applicants submit that Sekiguchi does not disclose or suggest: (1) an insulating layer formed on the first and second input electrodes and the first and second contact electrodes; and/or (2) a first floating electrode or a second floating electrode on the insulating layer.

In particular, amended Claim 1 recites “a first gate line formed at least partially directly on the first redundant gate line and including a first input electrode overlapping the first floating electrode wherein the insulating layer is interposed between the first input electrode and the first floating electrode, and further wherein the insulating layer entirely covers lateral surfaces of the first floating electrode; a second gate line formed at least partially directly on the second redundant gate line and including a second input electrode overlapping the second floating electrode wherein the insulating layer is interposed between the second input electrode and the second floating electrode and further wherein the insulating layer entirely covers lateral surfaces of the second floating electrode;” in addition to other limitations.

Claim 8 recites “an insulating layer formed on the first and second input electrodes and the first and second contact electrodes; a first gate line formed at least partially directly on the first redundant gate line; a second gate line formed at least partially directly on the second redundant gate line; a first floating electrode formed on the insulating layer and overlapping the first input electrode and the first contact electrode; a second floating electrode formed on the insulating layer and overlapping the second input electrode and the second contact electrode,” in addition to other limitations.

Accordingly, because Sekiguchi in view of Den Boer does not disclose or suggest all the limitations of Claims 1 and 8, Claims 1 and 8 are patentable over Sekiguchi in view of Den Boer.

Claims 2-5 and 9-12 are dependent upon Claims 1 and 8, and contain additional limitations that further distinguish them from the cited references. Therefore, Claims 2-5 and 9-12 are allowable over Watanabe in view of Den Boer for at least the same reasons provided

above for Claims 1 and 8, respectively.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 6, 7, 13, and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the based claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 6-7 and 13-14 are dependent upon Claims 1 and 8, and contain additional limitations that further distinguish them from the cited references. Therefore, Claims 6-7 and 13-14 are allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons provided above for Claims 1 and 8, respectively.

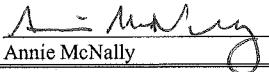
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe pending claims 1-14 are allowable, and a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned Attorney at (202) 654-4500.

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Respectfully submitted,

/ David S. Park /

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